

pies but the service is fragmented throughout the country despite being influenced and supported at the highest levels. Several recent influential reports all acknowledge and support to some extent, the use of complementary therapy in healthcare in general and in cancer care in particular. The present situation, in Britain, regarding the use of these therapies in oncology is explored and proposals offered as to how the future role of complementary therapies in oncology nursing might look. What we really

need is considerably increased liaison between nursing bodies, therapists, universities, designated cancer centres and the NHS to establish research into complementary therapies. This could provide a way of satisfying both proponents and critics of complementary therapies and allow them to be utilised more extensively. The paper explores ways in which this may be achieved.

Workshops

Workshop: English

1463

Care of the dying patient

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I would like to suggest that if we accept the title of this workshop "Care of the dying patient" without question, there is a risk of our attitude being negative. From my experience, when health care professionals refer to those with a life threatening illness as "the dying" this affects the quality of care. It limits our vision and does not stimulate the search for solutions to problems in day to day care. Our aim here is to try and understand the complexity of the problems facing a terminally ill patient and his family with the advantage of an interdisciplinary team, working together with the patient, to set realistic goals for

of their patients. Death results because of unsuccessful therapies of the ending of life. The professional answer to death consists in a number of necessities and different situations. For this reason, only the most adequate and responsible answers assure proper care for the patients and their families.

Background: The development of palliative care has brought a number of therapies suited for the needs of terminal patients. Nevertheless, the scope of therapies in the different sanitary areas is still not sufficient. Special personal, social and institutional efforts are necessary to assure quality care.

Aim and Method of Workshop: The workshop shall deal with three important basic situations, usually developed step by step. The methodology will consist in personal analysis and training in each area.

First area: The initiation of a palliative treatment is determined by the necessity to cope with strong physical and emotional symptoms that are of a multiple kind and due to many factors. Detection, valuation and evaluation by the nursing staff are needed at this moment to assure proper planning and initiation of therapeutic measures.

Second situation: Symptom control of the patients asks for a correct management of therapeutic measures as well as likely emotional reactions by the patients and their families members. Often, we have to face ethical dilemmas in this moment.

Third situation: The initiation of agony and closeness of death imposes a concentration on essentials. At the same time, many details have to be cared about following the objective of creating an atmosphere of confidence and serenity, most important in this moment. The purpose of this workshop is to help in developing practical skills for nurses for advanced and terminal situation.

Workshop: Spanish

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Care of the dying patient

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Introduction: Nursing professionals always had and have to face death